



United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

GWH JMUN 2025

BACKGROUND GUIDE



Agenda: "Addressing the 2001 U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan and its impact on global peace and sovereignty."

Freeze Date: November 13th , 2001



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Letter from Executive Board
2. Introduction to the Committee
3. Introduction to the Agenda
4. Timeline
5. Questions A Resolution Must Answer (QARMA's)
6. Case Studies
7. Legal Documentation
8. Relevant resolutions
9. Rules of Procedure
10. Draft Resolutions

11. Guide to a Crisis

- a. Directives
- b. Communiqué
- c. Press release
- d. Samples - Directives, Communiqué, Press Release

13. Bibliography





LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Delegates,

It is our immense privilege to welcome you to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) at the Greenwood High Junior Model United Nations 2025.

The UNSC holds unparalleled influence in shaping international law and global governance. In this committee, you are not merely debating policies—you are shaping the precedent for how the international community responds to crises of such magnitude.

History has shown us the devastating consequences of misjudgment, inaction, and unilateralism. The challenges before you are immense: balancing the principles of sovereignty against the imperatives of security, scrutinizing the legality and legitimacy of military interventions, and mitigating the long-term repercussions of actions taken in the name of peace. The UNSC's mandate demands not just action but informed, deliberate, and just action. Anything less would merely undermine the trust placed in this council by the international community.

This background guide aims to provide an overview of the agenda and has been carefully curated to give you an understanding of the basics of what is to be discussed in committee. This should, in no way, be the sole source of your research. This background guide is only meant to help you kick-start your preparation and is by no means an exhaustive list of the diverse subtopics that can potentially be discussed.

The world has often questioned the UNSC's ability to act decisively and effectively in the face of crises. Here lies your opportunity to demonstrate what this body is capable of when it functions at its best. The eyes of the world are upon you, and the decisions made

in this room have the potential to rewrite history—not just for the nations directly involved but for the principles that define international relations in the 21st century.

As the executive board, we will be expecting detailed legal arguments, innovative strategies, and a genuine effort to collaborate for comprehensive and enforceable solutions.

Should you have any questions or require guidance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to witnessing your dedication and brilliance as you take on the monumental task before you.

Wishing you the very best of luck,

The Executive Board,
United Nations Security Council,

Greenwood High Junior Model United Nations 2025

Head Chair: Varun Iyer - varuniyer2008@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Ayaan Viswanathan - viswanathanayaan@gmail.com



INTRODUCTION TO COMMITTEE

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the six principal organs of the UN, with its most important goal being the **maintenance of international peace and security**. Acting under the UN Charter, the UNSC determines the existence of any threats to peace and security, investigates disputes that might lead to international friction, deliberates on existing conflicts, recommends terms of settlement, passes binding resolutions, calls on member states to impose economic sanctions, takes military action against aggressors, and commands UN peacekeeping forces.

Unlike other organs, the UNSC has the authority to pass resolutions that are binding on all UN member states. This means its decisions are not merely recommendations but obligations that member states must comply with. This distinction makes it the **most powerful decision-making organ of the UN**.

The UNSC consists of **15 member states**, five of which are permanent members. These permanent members (known as the P5 nations) include the **USA, the UK, France, China, and Russia**. Their privileged position stems from their victory in World War II. They hold veto power, meaning that if even one permanent member votes against a resolution, the resolution fails. This often limits the council's immense power and leads to inefficiencies in addressing conflicts of political significance to the P5 nations.

The other 10 members are elected by a **two-thirds vote** of the General Assembly and serve **two-year terms**.

Note that for the final resolution, only the actual members of the UNSC will have voting rights.

For reference, please find attached the mandate under which this committee shall be working under:

<https://www.havc.se/res/SelectedMaterial/20142224ilperceptionsofsecurity.pdf>



INTRODUCTION TO AGENDA

The USA-Afghanistan war is a war that explains one of the most defining confrontations of the twenty-first century, which has been fueled by global counterterrorism measures, nation-building endeavors, and the complexities of international cooperation. In response to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the United States launched Operation Enduring Freedom with the initial aim of vanquishing Al-Qaeda, deposing the Taliban from power, and preventing Afghanistan from becoming a safe haven for terrorists. The fight was a multinational force of more than 40 countries under the International Security Assistance Force, which was established by the United Nations in December 2001. ISAF had the objectives of stabilizing Afghanistan, training security forces, and providing humanitarian aid. Regional stakeholders, such as Pakistan, India, and Iran, played significant but often conflicting roles in shaping the course of the conflict. The battle became a symbol of international security, garnering funding and troops from NATO and other partner countries.

The US-Afghanistan War highlighted significant problems that hampered the coalition's goals and revealed the complexities of contemporary combat. A crucial concern was the insurgency's resilience: while the Taliban were deposed early in the conflict, their swift return highlighted the difficulty of counterinsurgency operations in Afghanistan's harsh terrain and disorganized tribal population. This insurgency exploited weak governmental structures and a lack of local support for foreign forces, sustaining instability for an unduly long period of time. Governance attempts were marred by widespread corruption and incompetence, further eroding the Afghan government and disengaging its citizenry. In addition, civilian casualties and human rights abuses, including drone strikes and targeted assassinations, further fueled discontent and increased sympathy for the insurgency.



TIMELINE

August 8, 1919: The British Empire concedes defeat in the Third British-Afghan War, marking Afghanistan's independence under the Treaty of Rawalpindi. Article 5 of the treaty formalizes British recognition of Afghanistan's sovereignty and establishes that British India would not extend its influence beyond the Khyber Pass. Furthermore, British subsidies to Afghanistan are discontinued, signifying the end of financial dependency. In return, Afghanistan agrees to honor all previously established border arrangements with British India, including recognition of the Durand Line as the official international boundary between the two nations.

July 26, 1921: The United States formally recognizes Afghanistan, establishing official diplomatic relations between the two nations. This milestone is marked by President Warren G. Harding's reception of a delegation from the Afghan Government at the White House.

May 4, 1935: Diplomatic relations between the United States and Afghanistan are established, when William H. Hornibrook presents his credentials to the Afghan government.

1947: Afghanistan casts the sole vote against Pakistan's admission to the United Nations, underscoring deep-seated tensions between the two neighboring nations. The partition of British India in August 1947 establishes Pakistan along Afghanistan's eastern frontier, intensifying disputes over the Durand Line, which Afghanistan steadfastly refuses to recognize as an international boundary. This disagreement over territorial sovereignty and conflicting claims to Pashtun tribal regions fosters enduring friction, hindering the normalization of diplomatic relations between the two nations for the remainder of the 20th century.

September 7, 1953: General Mohammed Daoud Khan assumes the office of prime minister, initiating a transformative period in Afghanistan's political landscape. Daoud rejects the Durand Line, a boundary recognized by Afghan governments for more than half a century, and champions the reunification of Pashtun tribes residing within Pakistan's territory with Afghanistan.

1956: Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev agrees to provide financial and technical aid to Afghanistan, initiating decades of Soviet influence.

January 1, 1965: The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), a communist party, is founded.

July 17, 1973: Mohammed Daoud Khan overthrows his cousin, King Zahir Shah, in a bloodless coup while the king was in Italy, ending Afghanistan's monarchy and establishing the Republic of Afghanistan under his leadership. The coup, known as the Coup of 26 Saratan, was supported by army officers, members of the Parcham faction of the PDPA, and air force personnel. Despite minor resistance, it is described as a "well-planned and swiftly executed" operation. King Zahir Shah chooses not to retaliate and formally abdicates on August 24, remaining in exile in Italy.

April 17, 1978: Mir Akbar Khyber, a prominent communist, is assassinated outside his home, igniting unrest within the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA). The Daoud regime attempts to attribute the murder to Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezbi Islami, but Nur Mohammad Taraki of the PDPA accuses the government of orchestrating the killing—a belief widely shared among Kabul's intelligentsia. American historian Louis Dupree later concludes that Mohammed Issa Nuristani, the virulently anti-communist interior minister, had ordered Khyber's assassination.

April 27-28, 1978: The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) launches the Saur Revolution, overthrowing and killing Afghan president Mohammad Daoud Khan. Daoud. Following the coup, Daoud's supporters are systematically purged and killed. The revolution, initiated under orders from PDPA member Hafizullah Amin,

leads to the establishment of a socialist Afghan government closely aligned with the Soviet Union. Nur Mohammad Taraki, serving as the PDPA's General Secretary of the Revolutionary Council, assumes the presidency.

February 14, 1979: U.S. Ambassador Adolph Dubs is kidnapped and killed. The abduction occurs in full view of Afghan police. Held in Room 117 of the hotel, the kidnappers allegedly demand the release of certain religious or political prisoners, including Tahir Badakhshi and Wasef Bakhtari. While American officials urge patience to negotiate Dubs' safe release, the Afghan police, acting on Soviet advisors' counsel, storm the hotel room, leading to Dubs' death in the crossfire. The Carter administration reacts with outrage, condemning the Afghan government's handling of the incident and its reliance on Soviet advice.

October 9, 1979: Nur Mohammad Taraki is killed in a power struggle with his deputy, Hafizullah Amin, who subsequently assumes the presidency of Afghanistan. In the days that follow, Amin consolidates power despite Soviet efforts to rescue Taraki or neutralize Amin's influence. Soviet leaders, including Leonid Brezhnev, counsel Amin against punishing Taraki, but Amin disregards their advice. Believing he has Soviet backing, Amin orders Taraki's execution.

December 24, 1979: The Soviet Union invades Afghanistan. The invasion, conducted under the command of Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, is intended to support the faltering People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) regime, which had been destabilized by internal power struggles and widespread insurgency. The Soviet-Afghan War sees the USSR and Afghan military forces pitted against a coalition of mujahideen fighters backed by an array of countries, including the United States (via Operation Cyclone), Pakistan, the United Kingdom, China, Iran, and Arab states from the Persian Gulf. The mujahideen also attract foreign fighters known as the Afghan Arabs. Guerrilla warfare dominates the conflict, with combat concentrated in Afghanistan's rugged countryside, while major cities and transportation routes remain under Soviet control. The war inflicts catastrophic damage on Afghanistan. Soviet forces employ scorched-earth tactics,

leveling villages, destroying irrigation systems, and planting millions of landmines to deny safe haven to the mujahideen. Between one and three million Afghans are killed, and millions more flee as refugees to Pakistan and Iran, with total population losses estimated at up to 22% of the country's pre-war population.

December 27, 1979: Hafizullah Amin is executed during a Soviet-backed coup, and Babrak Karmal is installed as the new leader. As part of Operation Storm-333, Soviet operatives assassinate Amin at the Tajbeg Palace after his brief rule of just over three months.

September 25, 1986: Stinger missiles supplied by the U.S. are successfully used by Mujahadeen forces to shoot down Soviet aircraft.

May 4, 1986: Mohammad Najibullah replaces Karmal as the Soviet-backed leader of Afghanistan, introducing policies of "national reconciliation."

1988: Osama bin Laden and other militants form al-Qaeda, marking a strategic shift toward global jihad. The organization is established during a series of meetings in Peshawar attended by Abdullah Azzam, Osama bin Laden, Muhammad Atef, Ayman al-Zawahiri, and other veterans of the Soviet–Afghan War.

February 15, 1989: The last Soviet troops withdraw from Afghanistan via the Friendship Bridge, ending a decade-long occupation.

April 28, 1992: Mujahideen forces capture Kabul, which they celebrate as their "Victory Day." The capture of Kabul follows the signing of the Peshawar Accord, a power-sharing agreement among most Mujahideen factions, excluding Hezb-i Islami Gulbuddin. However, deep-seated divisions among the factions persist, sparking a new civil war between the nascent government and dissident Mujahideen groups. In the aftermath, militias such as the Shi'ite Hezb-i Wahdat remain active, with many fighters maintaining loyalty to individual leaders rather than transitioning to purely political roles.

September 1994: The Taliban forms as an offshoot of the Mujahideen, founded by former Mujahideen commanders Mullah Omar and Abdul Ghani Baradar.

Emerging as a significant faction in the ongoing Afghan Civil War, the Taliban predominantly comprises students from the Pashtun regions of eastern and southern Afghanistan, many of whom were educated in traditional Islamic schools.

September 1996: The Taliban seizes Kabul, establishing the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and imposing strict Sharia law.

August 7, 1998: Al-Qaeda orchestrates simultaneous truck bombings at U.S. embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, killing over 220 people and injuring thousands. These coordinated attacks, masterminded by Fazul Abdullah Mohammed and Abdullah Ahmed Abdullah, mark a significant escalation in al-Qaeda's global jihad against the United States.

August 20, 1998: The United States launches Operation Infinite Reach, a series of cruise missile strikes targeting al-Qaeda facilities in Afghanistan and Sudan.

October 15, 1999: The United Nations Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1267, imposing sanctions on the Taliban for providing sanctuary to Osama bin Laden. The resolution, recalling earlier measures addressing the situation in Afghanistan, designates bin Laden and his associates as terrorists and establishes a sanctions regime targeting individuals and entities linked to al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden, and the Taliban, regardless of location.

March, 2001: The Taliban destroys the Bamiyan Buddhas, sparking international outrage.

September 9, 2001: Ahmad Shah Massoud, leader of the Northern Alliance, is assassinated by two al-Qaeda operatives posing as journalists in Khwaja Bahauddin District, Takhar Province, Afghanistan.

September 11, 2001: Al-Qaeda orchestrates the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the deadliest in history, killing 2,977 people in the United States. Nineteen al-Qaeda operatives hijack four commercial airliners in a coordinated series of suicide attacks. Two planes crash into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, causing their collapse. A third plane strikes the Pentagon, the headquarters of the U.S. Department of Defense, in Arlington County, Virginia. The fourth plane, United Airlines Flight 93, crashes in rural Pennsylvania after passengers launch a revolt against the hijackers.

September 18, 2001: U.S. President George W. Bush signs the Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF) against those responsible for the September 11 attacks. The AUMF, passed by Congress on September 14, 2001, grants the President the authority to use all "necessary and appropriate force" against individuals, groups, or nations that he determines "planned, authorized, committed, or aided" the attacks or harbored those involved.

October 7, 2001: The United States, supported by allied nations, launches Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), initiating airstrikes on Taliban and al-Qaeda targets in Afghanistan.

November 9, 2001: Taliban forces lose control of Mazar-e-Sharif.

November 11, 2001: The Taliban lose control of Taloqan and Bamiyan.



QUESTIONS A RESOLUTION MUST ANSWER (QARMAS)

How should the committee evaluate the legitimacy of the 2001 U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan under international law?

How can the committee address the impact of the invasion on Afghan sovereignty and its implications for global peace?

Should the committee establish mechanisms to ensure Afghanistan's right to self-determination and political independence?

How can the committee mitigate the humanitarian consequences of the invasion, including the displacement of civilians and access to basic resources?

What measures can the committee propose to prevent civilian casualties and uphold international humanitarian law during ongoing operations?

How can the committee facilitate dialogue between domestic Afghan factions to promote a peaceful and inclusive political transition?

What steps can the committee take to ensure regional stability and prevent the escalation of conflict to neighboring countries?

Should the committee recommend actions against human rights violations committed by all parties involved, including the U.S.-led coalition, Afghan factions, and insurgent groups?

How can the resolution ensure compliance from all involved parties with its provisions to maintain global peace and respect for sovereignty?

Note: The resolution must also address the relevant crisis updates that come up in committee.





CASE STUDIES

TALIBAN

The Taliban, a term meaning "students" in Pashto, arose in the early 1990s in southern Afghanistan, especially in Pashtun tribes. The movement can be traced back to Pakistani madrassas or Islamic schools that taught young Afghan refugees a rather strict version of Islam with considerable Wahhabist influences supported by Saudi Arabia. These madrassas proliferated during the [Soviet-Afghan War \(1979–1989\)](#) and were instrumental in shaping the Taliban's rigid ideology, defined by a strict interpretation of Sharia law, emphasizing gender segregation, banning modern education for women, and suppressing cultural practices deemed un-Islamic.

After the withdrawal of the Soviets and the overthrow of Afghanistan's communist government, civil war engulfed the country as power-hungry factions jostled for influence. During these turbulent times, the Taliban was seen as an entity of order, pledging to root out corruption and disorder. Such rhetoric appealed to the war-fatigued nation, and by 1996, the Taliban had captured Kabul, overthrown President Burhanuddin Rabbani, and established the [Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan](#). Their government introduced a strict form of Islamic law that included public executions and severe curbs on women, which invited condemnation from the international community.

The Alliance with Al-Qaeda and Global Consequences

A crucial element of the Taliban's rule is their affiliation with Osama bin Laden and Al-Qaeda. Bin Laden, in return for being given a safe haven and the freedom to operate, supported the Taliban's actions, building up their military and political might. This relationship allowed Al-Qaeda to establish training camps in Afghanistan and was instrumental in terrorist attacks, such as the 1998 US embassy bombings in East Africa. Their unwillingness to surrender Osama bin Laden after the September 11, 2001, attacks has created tensions around the world and drawn Afghanistan into the global spotlight. Its harboring of Al-Qaeda terrorists has assured that Afghanistan would forever become a terrorism nerve center of the world.

Sustaining Power and Operations

The Taliban have effectively capitalized on an impressive capacity for holding power together and maintaining momentum within Afghanistan. Using local tribal networks, specifically within the Pashtun sphere of influence, the Taliban successfully attained broad popularity within many of Afghanistan's regional jurisdictions. It further positioned the group as Afghanistan's native defender against alleged corruption and external meddling by targeting real and imagined injustices based on perceived moral deficiencies. That would explain the sustained control that they have gained in vast segments of the nation.

The Taliban have funded their activities from various sources, both legal and illegal. Through opium production and trafficking, they have developed a central source of their revenue, supplementing it with taxation and extortions in whatever area they control. Financial support from their international sympathizers complements these resources, allowing them to sustain governance and military operations.

Conclusion

To date, November 2001, the Taliban is still a major power in Afghanistan. They control most of the country's politics and social scene. Their hard-line interpretation of Islamic law and their strategic alliances, along with resourcefulness, has cemented their power. But their ties to Al-Qaeda and refusal to abide by international pressure have plunged Afghanistan into world turmoil, and thus the Taliban are a focus point for regional and international politics.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Before the formal engagement in Afghanistan after September 11, 2001, the United States had an indirect role in the region, most notably during the [Soviet-Afghan War \(1979–1989\)](#). This involvement was mainly through Operation Cyclone, which provided critical support to Afghan mujahideen to fight the Soviet forces in that country. While this intervention led to the Soviet's withdrawal, it further destabilized Afghanistan, clearing the way for extremist groups such as the Taliban. However, the US almost entirely disengaged during the Taliban's ascent in the 1990s, condemning their harsh rule but avoiding direct intervention. The attacks on September 11 changed everything, and an immediate and aggressive response was initiated.

The terrorist attacks, by [Al-Qaeda](#) operatives harbored by the Taliban, marked a turning point in global geopolitics. The coordinated attacks on the [World Trade Center](#) and the [Pentagon](#), killing over 3,000 people, led US President George W. Bush to launch the Global War on Terror. Afghanistan became the initial focus due to the Taliban's refusal to extradite Osama bin Laden and dismantle Al-Qaeda operations. This led to the commencement of [Operation Enduring Freedom](#) on October 7, 2001, marking the beginning of the US-led war on Afghanistan.

Operation Enduring Freedom and Early Military Success

Operation Enduring Freedom began with a series of targeted airstrikes on Taliban-controlled cities, military infrastructure, and Al-Qaeda training camps. These initial assaults aimed to destabilize the Taliban's grip on power and disrupt Al-Qaeda's operational capabilities. The United States forged a crucial alliance with the Northern Alliance, an Afghan anti-Taliban coalition, providing them with military and logistical support. This partnership was fundamental in the initial stages of the conflict, in which the local expertise and ground forces of the Northern Alliance supported US air power and special operations. This strategic cooperation resulted in quick military victories. By mid-November 2001, the main cities, such as Kabul, had been lost, and the Taliban leadership had retreated to the countryside and Pakistan. The swift collapse of the Taliban regime was a major turning point in the war, but it also transitioned the war into a protracted insurgency phase.

Political Reconstruction Efforts and Lingering Challenges

In parallel to military action, the United States embarked on reconstruction of Afghanistan's political order. The Bonn Agreement signed in December 2001, under the banner of the United Nations, provided a framework for an Afghanistan without the Taliban. This document provided for an interim government headed by Hamid Karzai and marked the first step in state-building. Some of these initial endeavors were promising while at the same time bringing to light the depth of complexity when trying to resolve Afghanistan's societal and political landscape.

The United States' initial actions—both military and political—laid down the stage for a protracted conflict. Early military successes exposed vulnerabilities in the Taliban, but it was the lasting challenges of nation-building and counterinsurgency that would test US strategy and commitment in the years to come.

RUSSIA

Russia's involvement in Afghanistan began during the Soviet-Afghan War, when the Soviet Union invaded to prop up the communist People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) against an increasing insurgency. The invasion was a strategic move to maintain influence in Central Asia and prevent the rise of Western-backed opposition forces. Over the decade-long conflict, almost 100,000 Soviet troops were stationed in Afghanistan to prop up the communist regime in Kabul. The war however turned into a very expensive quagmire as the mujahideen—a coalition of Afghan guerrilla fighters—mounted fierce resistance. This fight over Afghanistan became a Cold War proxy war, as the United States, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia backed and armed the mujahideen through initiatives such as Operation Cyclone. Such warfare dealt significant and devastating losses for the Soviet Union, ultimately bringing it to eventually withdraw in 1989 with a very telling blow to their international standing.

Post-Soviet Strategic Interests and the Northern Alliance

After the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, Russia kept away from direct engagement with Afghanistan but remained interested in the country strategically because it was geographically close and Russia was concerned with regional instability. The Taliban were seen as threats to regional security because they supported extremist groups such as Al-Qaeda. Russia indeed strengthened its relations with the Northern Alliance, a strong anti-Taliban coalition led by Ahmad Shah Massoud. It started providing weapons, training, and financial aid. This support was motivated by a desire to counter the Taliban as much as by a necessity to protect its borders from the spillover of terrorism, drug trafficking, and instability into former Soviet republics.

During the US-led conflict in Afghanistan after the September 11, 2001 attacks, Russia supported the Northern Alliance militarily, supporting US military actions. The successes that the Northern Alliance registered in taking strategic areas held by the Taliban had well shown how collaboration worked between Russia and the US interest and strategic positioning of regional allies to contain shared threats.

Russia's Role in the Global War on Terror

It was during the attacks on September 11 that Russian President Vladimir Putin finally expressed his country's support for the United States to combat terrorism; a rare agreement between the two superpowers. Russia, while contributing to Operation Enduring Freedom, also allowed for the transit of its airspace to allow the military and humanitarian missions of both nations to utilize this air corridor. Such collaboration only represented the temporary mutual interests of Russia and the US to fight global terrorism.

Russia's actions during this time were driven by a dual objective: stabilizing Afghanistan to curtail the influence of extremist groups and prevent the infiltration of radicalism into Central Asia and the Caucasus, especially Chechnya, which had been witnessing Islamist insurgencies. The fall of the Taliban seemed a good opportunity to reduce regional threats while pushing Moscow's geopolitical agenda.



LEGAL DOCUMENTS

IMPORTANT TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS

Montevideo Convention on the Rights and Duties of States, signed in 1933, has been an influential instrument in the international law about the requirements on statehood and outlines four fundamental criteria for which an organization qualifies to be treated as a state:

A permanent population

A defined territory

A government

The capacity to enter into relations with other states

The treaty also emphasizes ideals such as state sovereignty and equality, as well as nonintervention in other nations' internal or external affairs. Signed during the Seventh International Conference of American States in Montevideo, Uruguay.

<https://www.jus.uio.no/english/services/library/treaties/01/1-02/rights-duties-states.html>

The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, adopted May 23, 1969, is one of the founding international treaties codifying the rules and principles that govern treaties between states. Sometimes referred to as the "treaty on treaties," it sets out the processes for making, interpreting, applying, amending, and terminating treaties and the consequences of breaching treaty obligations.

https://legal.un.org/ilc/texts/instruments/english/conventions/1_1_1969.pdf

The United Nations Charter enacted on June 26, 1945 is the UN's basic document and a cornerstone of modern international law. It was signed by fifty nations in San Francisco and took effect on October 24, 1945, effectively forming the United Nations. The Charter shows the international community's will to avoid future world conflicts and to enhance global cooperation.

<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter>

The Geneva Conventions are a series of accords that form the basis of international humanitarian law. They outline guidelines for the protection of persons in armed combat. First used in 1864, they were significantly expanded in 1949 to protect civilians, medical personnel, and wounded soldiers who do not participate in battles. They have been universally accepted and have become a pillar of international efforts toward humane treatment in times of war.

<https://www.icrc.org/en/law-and-policy/geneva-conventions-and-their-commentaries>

RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 1373(2001)

This resolution, passed on September 28, 2001, aimed to combat terrorism across the world by requiring all UN member nations to outlaw terrorist financing, improve border security, and deny terrorists safe havens. While not directly related to Afghanistan, it strengthened the international framework for combating terrorist networks such as Al-Qaeda, which was headquartered in Afghanistan at the time.

https://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/terrorism/res_1373_english.pdf

Resolution 1386(2001)

Adopted on December 20, 2001, this resolution authorized the establishment of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan. The ISAF was tasked with maintaining security in and around Kabul to support the newly formed Afghan Transitional Authority. It marked the beginning of sustained international involvement in Afghanistan's reconstruction and stabilization.

<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/454998?ln=en&v=pdf>

Resolution 1267 (1999)

Though approved before the 9/11 attacks, this resolution remains vitally significant since it levied penalties on the Taliban for sheltering Al-Qaeda. It contained measures like asset freezes, travel restrictions, and arms embargoes, as well as the establishment of the 1267 Committee to oversee compliance with these sanctions. It paved the way for subsequent UN efforts against the Taliban during the Afghanistan conflict.

<https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/s/res/1267-%281999%29>

Resolution 1378 (2001)

This resolution, passed on November 14, 2001, praised the Afghan people's efforts to build a transitional government and advocated for the development of a broad-based, inclusive administration. It also stressed the importance of international assistance in reconstructing Afghanistan and ensuring that the country does not become a safe haven for terrorism.

<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/452431?ln=en&v=pdf>



RULES OF PROCEDURE

The RoP for this committee shall be the same as any conventional UN committee, with certain deviations from the same which we shall elaborate on below. The RoP followed is similar to the UNA for USA procedure prevalently followed in the Indian Model UN circuit.

The procedure is as follows:

Roll Call: The committee will begin with a roll call, which is similar to attendance being taken. A roll call is taken to establish a quorum (minimum number of members required to begin a session) for the committee. The quorum for the ACD shall be 1/3rd of the total strength.

Setting the Agenda: This is the first step to starting the discussion in the committee – setting the agenda before opening the debate session. It mostly takes place if there are 2 or more agendas to be discussed in the committee. In case the committee has only one agenda to discuss, the agenda is adopted automatically without any motion, which is the case at this MUN.

Rules Governing Debate:

Motions: Various motions can be raised at the MUN Conference to formally regulate the debate and systematically keep the flow of debate.

Motion Explanation and Purpose:

Motion to Open Debate: This is the first motion of the session to start the formal proceedings of the committee. This motion is generally passed at the discretion of the Dias Members or the Chairperson.

Motion to Set Agenda: This motion is raised to set the agenda to be discussed in the committee. This is raised in a situation when the committee is dealing with two or more agendas. If there is only one agenda, it is automatically adopted by the committee.

Motion to Open General Speakers' List: This is the first step to establish the Formal Debate on the agenda which has been set up for the committee. This list is non-exhaustible and closes after the closing procedure of the committee.

Motion to begin Moderated Caucus: This motion is raised to focus the discussion on a specific topic within the mandate of the agenda. The purpose of this motion is to discuss various important aspects of the agenda in detail.

Motion to begin Unmoderated Caucus: This is a form of informal debate which is not moderated by the Dias Members. In this type of debate, there are no formal proceedings that are followed. It is raised for a particular amount of time.

Motion to begin Voting Procedures: After the amendments are discussed and voted on, the resolution is put to a vote. The Member States who voted 'Present and Voting' during the roll call may vote YES or NO on the resolution. The member states who voted 'Present' may ABSTAIN from voting on the resolution. The Observer Nations do not get voting rights on the resolution.

Motion to Adjourn the Session: This motion is raised at the end of the committee session to adjourn the session until the next meeting. It is passed on a simple majority or at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Motion to Close Debate: This motion is raised when the committee is over with the debating session and moves into the voting procedure for the Draft Resolution.

Motion to Suspend Debate Session: This motion is raised to postpone all the committee proceedings for the rest of the committee sessions. It is usually raised at the end of the conference.

General Speaker's List (GSL):

The **General Speakers List** is opened following a motion raised by a delegate and the subsequent approval of the Chair. The Chair then recognizes a list of speakers who wish to speak in the GSL and will have to sum up their country's stance on the agenda briefly agenda.

The default individual speaker's time is set at 90 seconds, which may be altered by raising a motion to alter the time. If the delegate has not used all the time that has been allotted, the delegate may yield the remaining time to comments, and questions, to another delegate or the Chair.

1. The delegate is not allowed to respond in retaliation to the comments made in his/ her speech. Yield to questions allows any member of the committee to ask questions on the speech made by the delegate to which the delegate would be allowed to answer. Follow-up questions will be allowed only at the discretion of the Dais.
2. Yield to another delegate allows another delegate to use the remaining time. This time can be used by the other delegate to reinforce the points made by the previous delegate.

3. Yield to the Chair simply means that the Chair would absorb the remaining time.

Moderated Caucus (MOD)

A Moderated Caucus is a debate format where delegates make short speeches on specific topics. These specific topics are sub-agendas to the main agenda set by the committee. Delegates raise a motion to start a Moderated Caucus for a specific time period after which the Chair would recognize speakers to speak in the Caucus.

Unmoderated Caucus (UNMOD)

An Unmoderated Caucus, as the name suggests, is not moderated by the Dais. Rules of the formal debate are suspended and delegates are allowed to freely converse with other members of the committee. This time period is used by the delegates to lobby amongst the committee members. An Unmoderated Caucus is also used by delegates to work on working papers and Draft Resolutions.

Time limit on speeches

All GSL speeches are by default set at 90 seconds but can be changed if required. Moderated caucuses are raised by delegates and it is, therefore, their duty to set the duration of the moderated caucus and the time allotted per speaker. When a Delegate exceeds the allotted time, the Dais may call the speaker to order.

POINTS

Points are tools that can be used by delegates to increase their understanding of the happenings of the committee.

Point of Personal Privilege:

This point is raised only when a delegate feels personal discomfort. Subsequently, the Chair will do everything in his power to address the discomfort.

Point of Order (2 Types):

1. *Factual Inaccuracy:* If the speaker makes a factually incorrect statement.

2. *Logical Fallacy:* If the speaker makes a logically fallacious statement. For these conferences, we will strictly not be entertaining a logical fallacy on any statement.

Point of Information:

This point is raised by delegates when they have a question about the delegate's speech.

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:

This point is raised when a delegate has a question regarding the proceedings of the committee such as a question regarding who the next speaker on the list is or inquiring about how much time is left for the caucus to end.

Rules Governing Voting

Attendance voting/ Roll Call:

Attendance shall be conducted at the beginning of every session when a delegate raises a motion to Roll Call after which every delegate in the committee must vote either "Present" or "Present and Voting".

Present And Voting: The delegate is not entitled to abstention on substantive votes.

Present: A Delegate that is declared "Present" shall vote in favor, against, or may abstain on any substantive matter.

Procedural Voting:

All delegates have one vote on a procedural motion. It is mandatory to vote on all procedural motions and abstentions are not allowed. Votes on procedural matters are expressed by simply raising their placards. A simple majority is required for a procedural motion to pass.

Substantive Voting:

Votes that have the potential for action outside the debate, such as a vote on Draft Resolutions, amendments, or motions that modify resolution content. All delegates have one vote and members may either vote Yes, No, or Abstain. Member States which have been declared as "Present and Voting" do not have the option to Abstain.



DRAFT RESOLUTION

A draft resolution is a document that contains all the issues that the committee wants to solve and the proposed solutions to those issues. It is the final culmination of the debate at the conference. It's usually completed and voted upon during the last day of the conference.

For each draft resolution, there are sponsors and signatories

Sponsors: The delegates who have made a majority of the draft resolution and lead their group/bloc

Signatory: The delegates who are interested in seeing the draft resolution be tabled in the committee. Note: A delegate from a bloc can be a signatory of a resolution of another bloc. 2/3rd of a committee need to be signatories of a resolution for it to be displayed in committee

Clauses:

There are two types of clauses in a draft resolution:

Pre-ambulatory Clauses: State all the issues that the committee wants to resolve on this issue. It may state reasons why the committee is working on this issue and highlight previous international actions on the issue.

Operative Clauses: State the solutions that the bloc of the resolution proposes to resolve the issue. The operative clauses should address the issues specified in the pre-ambulatory clauses.

For voting on a draft resolution, a “motion to table resolution [name of the resolution]” is raised. Once this motion passes, the sponsors will come up to the front and present the draft resolution. Following this, there may be points of information asked to the sponsors which they need to answer.

Amendments

Following this, there are amendments to the resolution. An amendment is a statement that adds, deletes or changes an operative clause in a draft resolution. A delegate that raises an amendment needs to specify the type of amendment and what the amendment is by pointing out the precise article they want to amend. There are two types of amendments:

Friendly Amendment: The sponsors agree with the amendment and the change is made

Unfriendly Amendment: The sponsors disagree with the amendment. These amendments need to be voted upon in committee and there needs to be a 2/3rd majority for an unfriendly amendment to pass.

Note: If 2/3rds of a resolution has been amended, then the resolution will be scrapped entirely.

A sample draft resolution and the conventions for the format have been listed at the end of this document.



GUIDE TO CRISIS

This committee will be a semi-crisis committee, i.e, the executive board will open the floor for directives/ communiqus/ press releases every once in a while. For those unfamiliar with crisis committees, do refer to the following “crisis tools” to navigate your way through committee.

CRISIS TOOLS

Directives

In this crisis committee, directives are key to securing your goals as a nation. Directives are essential objectives that your nation/delegation would like to achieve. To put it in simple terms, a directive is something that you wish to do. For example, if you wish to send spies into an area or perform a military action or perform some action in committee in general, directives must be used. The **Executive Board** highly suggests and encourages you to submit as many directives as you can.

Directives are divided into two parts: *Covert Directives* and *Overt Directives*. Covert Directives are those directives that will not be voted in committee and are done in secret by the delegation performing the same. Such “secret actions” then, may include assassinations, military operations etc.

Overt Directives on the other hand are directives that are voted upon by the committee and are known to everyone in the committee.

Directives are also divided into Joint, Personal, and Committee-wide. Joint Directives are those which are sent by multiple delegations together. Personal Directives are those sent by a single delegation. Committee-wide directives are actions taken by the entire committee,

usually in order to achieve some greater, mutually agreeable aim.

Commuqués

These are crisis tools which delegates can use to communicate with people or nations not present in the Council before taking any action, or to aid any action in a crisis note or directive. For example, a delegate can write a communique to a nation not present in the committee, requesting military or monetary support from the nation to complement their own actions. Commuqués are always covert and may be Joint or Personal.

Press Releases

Press Releases: If any delegation wants to make a statement to press agencies across the globe, and hence people worldwide, they must write a press release. A press release need not be addressed to anyone in particular.

Note: Press Releases cannot be used as actions; they are only verbal statements.

Presidential Statement

A presidential statement is essentially a statement made by the head-of-state of your nation, addressing the members of the committee.

(These RoP's are a must to follow, and repetitive violations of these will result in the suspension of the delegate. It is recommended to follow the Rules of Procedure and abide by the committee, and not to disturb the flow of the committee)

SAMPLES

Sample Directive

Operation “Dawn” - Joint Covert Directive

Author: USA

Sponsor: United Kingdom

To: The Executive Board

Objective: Creation of the OSS

Plan of action:

The following directive concerns the establishment of the Office of Strategic Services - an intelligence department created by the United States Government, in order to facilitate civil and military intelligence-gathering operations

As such, there do exist intelligence-gathering organizations within the Government, such as the Signal Intelligence Service and OP-20-G. However, these organizations are not coordinated and do not operate under a unified name, as the Government would like.

Thus, the following will occur, in order to facilitate the establishment of this organization:

- The mandate will include the following points -
 - A wartime intelligence gathering unit of the United States Government is to be created
 - At the head of the Office shall be a Director appoThus, the following will occur, in order to facilitate the establishment of this organization -

- The mandate will include the following points -
 - A wartime intelligence gathering unit of the United States Government is to be created
 - At the head of the Office shall be a Director appoThus, the following will occur, in order to facilitate the establishment of this organization -
 - inted by the President, who shall perform his duties in coordinating operations at the Office, under the President's discretion
- Executive Order 8806 (the last order was 8805), will be signed by the President, which sets out the mandate for how the OSS will operate
 - There is established within the Office, a Committee on OSS Policy, which will consist of the Director (Chairman), respective Secretaries of State, Commanders of the Army, Commanders of the USAAF, Secretary of the Navy, and any other such members, that the Director may wish to be present, with the approval of the President.
 - This committee shall formulate basic policies and plans on the operations of the Office, mainly to do with wartime and civilian intelligence
 - Consistent with the desires of the President with regard to intelligence operations, and with the foreign policy of the United States, and after consultation with the previously established committee, the Director shall perform the following functions and duties:
 - (a) Carry out, through the use of press, radio, motion picture, and other facilities, information programs designed to facilitate, the development of an informed and intelligent

at home and abroad, of the status and progress of the war effort and of the war policies, activities, and aims of the Government.

- (b) Coordinate the war informational activities of all Federal departments and agencies for the purpose of assuring an accurate and consistent flow of war information to the public and the world at large.
- (c) Obtain, study, and analyze information concerning the war effort and advise the agencies concerned with the dissemination of such information as to the most appropriate and effective means of keeping the public adequately and accurately informed.
- (d) Review, clear, and approve all proposed radio and motion picture programs sponsored by Federal departments and agencies; and serve as the central point of clearance and contact for the radio broadcasting and motion-picture industries, respectively, in their relationships with Federal departments and agencies concerning such Government programs.
- (e) Perform such other functions and duties relating to war information as the President may from time to time determine.
 - The Director is authorized to issue such directives concerning wartime and civilian intelligence as he may deem necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this Order, and such directives shall be binding upon the several Federal departments and agencies. He may establish by regulation the types and classes of informational programs and releases which shall require clearance and approval by his office prior to dissemination. The Director may require the curtailment or elimination of any Federal information service, program, or release that he deems to be wasteful or not directly related to the prosecution of the war effort.

- The authority, functions, and duties of the Director shall not extend to the Western Hemisphere exclusive of the United States and Canada.
- Thus, the Executive Order which dictates the creation of this committee will be formed
- The Initial Director appointed for this organization will be William J. Donovan, as per the demands of the President, due to his substantial experience with intelligence-gathering operations in the past
- With him being appointed as director, his first actions will be as such, under the guidance of the President and other respective parties involved (USN, USAAF etc.)
- A merging of existing intelligence wings of current defense programs is to begin, under his guidance
- These wings are the Signal Intelligence Service, OP-20-G, and any other wings/departments that the Director deems fit to carry out operations for this Office
- These former wings may be dissolved (upon his discretion) and will be unified under the insignia of the OSS
- Following this merging, the Director will also be in charge of developing a recruitment program for the OSS, through the FBI, Civil Police and other wings identified by the Director
- A sub-committee for recruitment shall be developed in the OSS, which shall be in charge of finding, background checking and testing possible applicants for the OSS
- This committee may be members who are transferred from pre-existing recruitment wings of defence organizations, such as the USN, USAAF etc.

- Once possible recruits have been identified, they shall be contacted by this sub-committee and will engage in various series of tests, with regard to the potential recruit's capacity for maintaining secrecy, effective communications, logical deductions etc.
- This process will be conducted under complete secrecy, with recruits not gaining knowledge of the operations of the OSS as it occurs
- Further decisions, as per headquartering of designated sub-committees and such, shall be taken under the discretion of the Director
- Following the establishment of the Office and the Recruitment Program, new/untrained OSS members, who did not previously work for intelligence gathering wings, will commence training programs under the BSC, in Canada
- These recruits will be transported to clandestine facilities that will be constructed in Remote areas on the Southern Canadian border, as per the discretion of the Director
- Simultaneously, a research sub-committee will be created within the OSS, who will be incharge of studying the workings of the MI6, both through footage and meetings with the respective head of departments in the MI6, to facilitate the further development of the OSS
- Further operations, that could be detailed in further directives, will be carried out by already experienced members of the OSS, from previous intelligence wings
- This force will be added to as training programs elapse

Expectations: An effective intelligence gathering wing for the US shall be created for further wartime and peacetime operations

Sample Commiqué:

Covert Commiqué

Author: Franklin Roosevelt

Via: The Executive Board

To: US Congress

Objective: Establishing a military budget

Dear members of Congress,

This past week will be one that will live on infamy, for years to come. The people of the United States of America must unite in their cause, to tackle the tyranny of the Imperial Japanese, such that the ideals of freedom and liberty remain upright, for years to come.

As such, members of Congress here is my request - we require a military budget, a significant one, which will allow us to tackle the Japanese effectively. In addition, we need to establish conscription, in order to facilitate a comprehensive military against the Japanese, who so clearly attempt to poison us.

Yours hopeful,

President Franklin D. Roosevelt

Sample Press Release:

Press Release

Author: USA

To: The Executive Board

Objective: Establishing Conscription and Transitioning to a wartime economy

Dear members of the international community,

This past week will be one that will live on infamy, for years to come. The people of the United States of America must unite in their cause, to tackle the tyranny of the Imperial Japanese, such that the ideals of freedom and liberty remain upright, for years to come.

As such, as the President of the United States, I am officially announcing American plans to transition to a wartime economy, which will greatly increase the production of existing equipment, to be better equipped for future conflicts. Additionally, the US Navy and the US Army, shall be establishing the conscription of all able men, within the ages of 18 – 25. An expected 2.5-5 Million troops are to act as an extension to the US Navy and Army. Finally, the US Congress is under the process of approving a new military budget for military endeavors.

Yours hopeful,

President Franklin D. Roosevelt



BIBLIOGRAPHY

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/asia-jan-june11-timeline-afghanistan>

<https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-war-afghanistan>

<https://af.usembassy.gov/our-relationship/history-of-the-u-s-and-afghanistan/#:~:text=U.S.%20Recognition%20of%20Afghanistan%2C%201921,Government%20at%20the%20White%20House.>

https://legal.un.org/legislative_series/pdfs/chapters/book14/book14_afghanistan.pdf

<https://www.cambridge.org/engage/api-gateway/coe/assets/orp/resource/item/60998a09d0990a31ab87269d/original/treaty-of-rawalpindi-hundred-years-on.pdf>

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/2657738>

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2253#:~:text=Commemorating%2020years%20since%20the%20destruction%20of%20two%20Buddhas%20of%20Bamiyan%2C%20Afghanistan,-Thursday%2C%2011%20March&text=The%20tragic%20destruction%20of%20the,protect%20cultural%20heritage%20at%20risk.>

<https://2001-2009.state.gov/g/drl/rls/6185.htm#:~:text=The%20Taliban%20first%20became%20prominent,capital%2C%20Kabul%2C%20in%201996.>

https://www.dni.gov/netc/groups/afghan_taliban.html

<https://history.state.gov/countries/afghanistan#:~:text=The%20United%20States%20recognized%20Afghanistan%20on%20July%202026%2C%201921%2C%20when,Government%20at%20the%20White%20House.>

<https://diplomacy.state.gov/items/ambassador-dubs-letter-to-his-daughter#:~:text=On%20February%2014%2C%201979%2C%20Ambassador,assassinated%20during%20the%20attempted%20rescue.>

<https://www.fbi.gov/history/famous-cases/east-african-embassy-bombings#:~:text=On%20August%207%2C%201998%2C%20nearly,than%204%2C500%20people%20were%20wounded.>

<https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1267/resolutions>

<https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/wars-conflicts-and-operations/middle-east/operation-enduring-freedom.html>

https://www.britannica.com/event/Soviet-invasion-of-Afghanistan?utm_

https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep21096.11?utm_

https://www.chathamhouse.org/events/all/members-event/911-and-us-russia-relations?utm_

<https://press.un.org/en/2001/sgsm7885.doc.htm>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-11451718>

<https://dcas.dmdc.osd.mil/dcasa/app/conflictCasualties/oef>